



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/065,256
Applicant : Kaplan et al.
Filed : September 30, 2002
Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Julian W. Woo
Docket No. : 013341-000014
Customer No. : 24,239

Confirmation No.: 5660

For : SUTURE METHOD

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FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 AND 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

It is respectfully requested that the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Patent and Trademark Office in the above-referenced application and made of record therein. A full text copy of the relevant document is enclosed. The requisite fee pursuant to CFR §1.17(p) is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 12, 2004
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

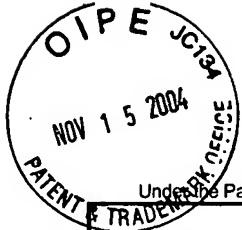
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Laura McCullen
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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 2		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/065,256
		Filing Date	September 30, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Andrew Kaplan
		Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo
		Attorney Docket Number	013341-000014

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	A	US- 879,758		02-18-1908	Foster	
	B	US- 1,248,825		12-04-1917	Dederer	
	C	US- 3,833,972		09-10-1974	Brumlik	
	D	US- 4,188,734		04-22-1980	Brumlik	
	E	US- 5,123,911		06-23-1992	Granger et al.	
	F	US- 5,123,919		06-23-1992	Sauter et al.	
	G	US- 5,374,268		12-20-1994	Sander	
	H	US- 6,027,523		02-22-2000	Schmieding	
	I	US- 6,251,143		06-26-2001	Schwartz et al.	
	J	US- 6,478,809		11-12-2002	Brotz	
	K	US- 6,599,310		07-29-2003	Leung et al.	
	L	US- 6,645,226		11-11-2003	Jacobs	
	M	US- 2003/0149447	A1	08-07-2003	Morency et al.	
	N	US- 2004/0030354		02-12-2004	Leung et al.	
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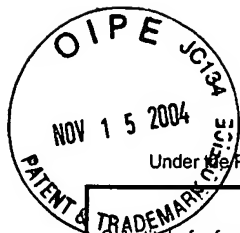
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	O	FR 2,619,129	02-10-1989	Mas et al.		X
	P	WO 98/52473	11-26-1998	Buncke		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Art Unit	3731		
		Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	013341-000014

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	Q	Buncke, Jr., H.J. et al.; THE SUTURE REPAIR OF ONE-MILLIMETER VESSELS; 1966; pp. 24-35	
	R	Han, Houghtao, et al.; MATING AND PIERCING MICROMECHANICAL STRUCTURES FOR SURFACE BONDING APPLICATIONS; 1991; pp. 253-258	
	S	Sulamanidze, M.A., et al.; REMOVAL OF FACIAL SOFT TISSUE PTOSIS WITH SPECIAL THREADS; Dermatol Surg 2002; 28; pp.367-371	

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